Abstract

A closed circuit television (CCTV) observation system accommodates a video feed from one or more wireless camera/transmitters to a single monitor, which also provides inputs for wired cameras. In the preferred embodiment wireless receivers are implemented into a multi-channel monitor, so that either wired or wireless cameras may be used, depending upon the user's surveillance requirements and the availability of cable pathways at the installation location. To reduce interference the wireless receiver is disposed on the back cover of the monitor offset from the electron beam generator of the monitor and generally parallel to an optical axis of the electron beam. A video surveillance system according to the invention may incorporate different combinations of wired cameras and wireless cameras, and may sequence through real-time video images generated by the various wireless cameras while providing a display of multiple camera segments, so that by a combination of screen splitting and camera sequencing a single monitor can be used to efficiently monitor cameras in many different positions, in real-time. The monitor may be equipped with a video capture card, which outputs the video image displayed on the monitor to a processing appliance such as a personal computer or computer network via a computer-compatible interface.